

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/050824

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06T5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	TICO M ET AL: "A topographic method for fingerprint segmentation" IMAGE PROCESSING, 1999. ICIP 99. PROCEEDINGS. 1999 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KOBE, JAPAN 24-28 OCT. 1999, PISCATAWAY, NJ, USA, IEEE, US, 24 October 1999 (1999-10-24), pages 36-40, XP010369242 ISBN: 0-7803-5467-2 page 36 – page 37 -----	1,2,6,7
Y	----- -/-	3,4,8-10

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

14 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/08/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Rockinger,

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WANG L ET AL: "DIRECT GRAY-SCALE EXTRACTION OF FEATURES FOR CHARACTER RECOGNITION" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON PATTERN ANALYSIS AND MACHINE INTELLIGENCE, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, US, vol. 15, no. 10, 1 October 1993 (1993-10-01), pages 1053-1067, XP000403524 ISSN: 0162-8828 page 1055 page 1059 - page 1061</p> <p>-----</p>	1,5,6,11
Y		3,4,8-10
X	<p>HARALICK R M ET AL: "The topographic primal sketch" 1983, NEW YORK, NY, USA, IEEE, USA, 25 May 1983 (1983-05-25), - 26 May 1983 (1983-05-26) pages 198-209, XP009033703 ISBN: 0-8186-0044-6 page 199 - page 200 page 202</p> <p>-----</p>	1,6
Y	<p>AL BOVIK (EDITOR-IN-CHIEF): "Handbook of Image and Video Processing" 13 June 2000 (2000-06-13), ACADEMIC PRESS, XP002288434 page 424 - page 431</p> <p>-----</p>	3,4,8-10